

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. - 3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) A method for controlling a video image compression system comprising:
  - compressing a video frame of raw video image data using a processor;
  - determining whether the processor is limited in its ability to compress video image data;
  - adjusting a target frame rate based on a current amount of time taken to compress said video frame of raw video image data.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said target frame rate is adjusted to a value equal to a frame rate of the video capture device divided by an integer divisor.
6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the frame rate of the video capture device is 30 frames per second and the integer divisor has a value between 1 and 30.
7. – 12. (Cancelled)
13. (Original) A set of instructions residing in a storage medium, said set of instructions capable of being executed by a processor to implement a method for controlling a video image compression system, the method comprising:
  - compressing a video frame of raw video image data using a processor;
  - determining whether the processor is limited in its ability to compress video image data;
  - adjusting a target frame rate based on a current amount of time taken to compress said video frame of raw video image data.

14. (Original) The set of instructions of claim 13 wherein said target frame rate is adjusted to a value equal to a frame rate of the video capture device divided by an integer divisor.

15. (Original) The set of instructions of claim 14 wherein the frame rate of the video capture device is 30 frames per second and the integer divisor has a value between 1 and 30.

16. – 21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) A video image compression system comprising:

- a processor;
- a bit rate controller to compress a video frame of raw video image data using said processor;
- a video controller coupled to said bit rate controller to determine whether the processor is limited in its ability to compress video image data and adjust a target frame rate based on a current amount of time taken to compress said video frame of raw video image data.

23. (Original) The system of claim 22 wherein said bit rate controller adjusts said target frame rate to a value equal to a frame rate of the video capture device divided by an integer divisor.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the frame rate of the video capture device is 30 frames per second and the integer divisor has a value between 1 and 30.

25. – 27. (Cancelled)